THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No Sir, according to the State Government of Tamil Nadu it is not a fact that Finger Prints of Hard Core Criminals digitally stored in the State Crime Records Bureau have vanished. As the old data base was created about 5 years ago in a software named "FACTS" version 4 and some of the prints have become smudged and unclear, the data base of the finger prints is being digitally recreated in the updated software namely the "FACTS" version 5, which is a newly installed Automatic Fingerprints Identification System at SCRB, Chennai. All the back up records are in full shape and are maintained properly. No records are missing.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Unutilised Tsunami Relief Fund

552. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 6268/- crore of Tsunami relief fund, which is more than 60 per cent of total outlay, remained unutilized when deadline for completion of the rehabilitation programme launched in 2005-06, was fixed as March, 2009;

(b) whether State Governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands sought any extension of time from Government to complete projects like construction of ports, jetties and multistories tenements; and

(c) the reasons for inordinate delay indicating any possibility of Tsunami funds being allowed to lapse after deadline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) Revised Tsunami Rehabilitation Programme (TRP) was approved by the Government at Rs. 9822.10 crore comprising of Rs. 3332 crore as Externally Aided Project (EAP) and Rs. 6490 crore as Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for the period of four years commencing from 2005-06 to 2008-09. Against this the allocation made in 4 years is Rs. 7117.68 crore (including both EAP & ACA). The actual expenditure as on 31.03.2008 was Rs. 3526.35 crore.

Empowered Group of Ministers while reviewing the progress of TRP have considered the time frame of the TRP and had decided that the concerned States/UTs should strive to overcome the difficulties to complete the work in time and the issue of extending the time will be considered separately only after a detailed review of the progress is made.

Checking Anti-national activities along Indo-Nepal Border

†553.SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to take any step to keep safe the main coming and going points of the Indo-Nepal border and to check even any kind of anti-national activities;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) whether Government has any information about human-trafficking especially of women and minors being done through the Indo-Nepal border; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The Indo-Nepal border (INB), being a porous border, has several routes facilitating entry and exit of citizens of both the countries. The SSB has been deployed all along the INB to check any anti-national activities. Besides, State Police is also keeping vigil. For effective check and control over smuggling and anti-national activities, the Government is proposing to set up four Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) on Indo-Nepal Border at Raxaul, Sonauli, Rupaidiha & Jogbani. There are institutional mechanisms like Border District Coordination Committees (BDCCs) meetings between officials of two countries who deal with these issues effectively. Additionally, there are bilateral institutional arrangements such as Joint Working Group on Border Management and Home Secretary level talks between India and Nepal which address these problems in more wholesome manner.

(b) and (c) However, due to socio-economic reasons, certain incidents of human trafficking have been reported on this border where women and minors were rescued. SSB keeps strict vigil on the border and carry out regular patrolling to prevent such activities. Several Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), are also actively engaged on both sides of Indo-Nepal Border to check the menace.

Tough Anti-Terror Law in view of serial bomb blasts

554. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the wake of serial bomb blasts in Jaipur, Surat, Ahmedabad, Mumbai and Karnataka in which hundreds of innocent people were reportedly killed recently and in view of demand by opposition parties Government proposes to bring forward a stringent anti-terror law like POTA;

(b) if so, when Government proposes to bring forward tough anti-terror law in place of present milder amended version of Unlawful Activities Prevention Act; and

(c) whether Rajasthan Government had forwarded any draft legislation in this regard to Central Government for approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 was amended in 2004 to incorporate various provisions to deal effectively with terrorism and terrorist acts perpetrated by individuals, groups and terrorist gangs and organizations, etc. In addition, provisions to deal with terrorist and subversive activities also exist in various other laws such as The National Security Act, The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, etc. Suggestions have been received from time to time from various sources regarding the need for further strengthening of the laws and other related arrangements to deal with terrorism and terror related offences. These are being examined and reviewed on a continuing basis and appropriate measures will be taken, as found necessary, as a part of this exercise.